II. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Original) A general purpose test equipment system comprising:

hardware having common object request broker architecture software and

a mark-up language enabled input connected to the hardware.

2. (Currently amended) A system as in claim 1 wherein the mark-up language enabled input ~~is configured for acceptance of a delimited configuration file~~ generates a machine-ingestible document appropriate for configuring and controlling test equipment.

3. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein the mark-up language comprises XML.

4. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein the mark-up language comprises SGML.

5. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein the mark-up language comprises HTML.

6. (Original) A system as in claim 1 wherein the mark-up language enabled input comprises a mark-up language reader configured to receive a performance specification document and output a delimited configuration file.

7. (Currently amended) A system as in claim ~~5~~ 6 wherein the reader selectively outputs a human readable document corresponding to the performance specification document.

8. (Currently amended) A system as in claim ~~5~~ 6 wherein the performance specification document comprises:

an order of test operations to be performed on equipment, wherein the order of test operations is defined in mark-up language,

a specification of system interfaces for the application of stimulus to and the collection of measurements from the system during test operations, wherein the specification is defined in mark-up language,

a specification of units and values to be applied to the equipment during test operations, wherein the specification is defined in mark-up language,

a specification of units and values to be measured during test operations,

an identification of a test system response to failure, a specification for collection of test results, and

a specification for storage of test results.

9. (Original) A method of configuring test equipment comprising;

inputting, in mark-up language format:

an order of test operations,

a specification of system interfaces for the application of stimulus to and the collection of measurements from the system during test operations

units and values to be applied to the equipment during test operations,

units and values to be measured during test operations,

a test system response to a failure,

a specification of collection of test results,

a specification of storage of test results,

generating a delimited configuration file, dependent upon said inputting; and

entering the delimited configuration file into test equipment.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 9 wherein the mark-up language comprises SGML.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 9 wherein the mark-up language comprises XML.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 9 wherein the mark-up language comprises HTML.

13. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 9 further comprising generating a human-readable document dependent upon said entering from the same XML source document used to generate the delimited configuration file.

14. (Original) A system of configuring test equipment comprising:

means for inputting, in mark-up language format:

an order of test operations,

a specification of system interfaces for the application of stimulus to and the collection of measurements from the system during test operations

units and values to be applied to the equipment during test operations,

units and values to be measured during test operations,

a test system response to a failure,

a specification of collection of test results,

a specification of storage of test results,

means for generating a delimited configuration file, dependent upon said means for inputting; and

means for entering the delimited configuration file into test equipment.

15. (Original) A system as in claim 14 wherein the mark-up language comprises SGML.

16. (Original) A system as in claim 14 wherein the mark-up language comprises XML.

17. (Original) A system as in claim 14 wherein the mark-up language comprises HTML.

18. (Original) A system as in claim 14 further comprising means for generating a human-readable document dependent upon said means for entering.